



## **Texas Department of Insurance**

### **Division of Workers' Compensation**

Medical Fee Dispute Resolution, MS-48

7551 Metro Center Drive, Suite 100 • Austin, Texas 78744-1645

518-804-4000 telephone • 512-804-4811 fax • [www.tdi.texas.gov](http://www.tdi.texas.gov)

## **MEDICAL FEE DISPUTE RESOLUTION FINDINGS AND DECISION**

### **GENERAL INFORMATION**

#### **Requestor Name and Address**

HEALTHTRUST LLC  
PO BOX 890008  
HOUSTON TX 77059

#### **Respondent Name**

ALIEF ISD

#### **Carrier's Austin Representative Box**

Box Number 21

#### **MFDR Tracking Number**

M4-12-0629-01

### **REQUESTOR'S POSITION SUMMARY**

**Requestor's Position Summary:** "This carrier's preauthorization company gave HealthTrust preauthorization for 6 sessions of individual psychotherapy that our therapist believed to be medically necessary for this patient. In her valuation the therapist determined that the work injury led to the problems now evident in the patient's recovery. As required by the Texas Code #134.6(f)(5)(c), the carrier is required by the code to list any issues of relatedness or extent in the preauthorization letter to the carrier. As you can clearly see in the letter, there is not issues listed whatsoever. Therefore by the code, there are no issues of extent or relatedness that the carrier can now claim to be the reason for non-payment."

**Amount in Dispute:** \$1,626.78

### **RESPONDENT'S POSITION SUMMARY**

**Respondent's Position Summary:** "We are denying your claim for workers' compensation benefits. Workers' compensation benefits, including medical benefits, are not being paid because: Claimant did not sustain a compensable injury arising out of or in course and scope of employment."

**Response Submitted by:** Alief ISD c/o JI Specialty Services PO Box 672447 Houston TX 77267

### **SUMMARY OF FINDINGS**

Dates of Service	Disputed Services	Amount In Dispute	Amount Due
May 11, 2011 through September 16, 2011	90801 and 90806	\$1,626.78	\$ 0.00

### **FINDINGS AND DECISION**

This medical fee dispute is decided pursuant to Texas Labor Code §413.031 and all applicable, adopted rules of the Texas Department of Insurance, Division of Workers' Compensation.

#### **Background**

1. 28 Texas Administrative Code §133.305 sets forth general provisions regarding dispute of medical bills.

2. 28 Texas Administrative Code §133.307 sets out the procedures for resolving medical fee disputes.
3. 28 Texas Administrative Code §141.1 sets out the procedures for requesting and setting a Benefit Review Conference.
4. 28 Texas Administrative Code §124.2 relating to Carrier Reporting and Notification Requirements
5. This request for medical fee dispute resolution was received by the Division on October 27, 2011.
6. The services in dispute were reduced/denied by the respondent with the following reason codes:

Explanation of benefits dated June 26, 2011, July 28, 2011, September 14, 2011, September 28, 2011 and October 18, 2011

- 218 BASED ON ENTITLEMENT TO BENEFITS
- 5052 ENTITLEMENT (MON-COMPENSABLE) CARRIER DENIES LIABILITY FOR THIS CLAIM
- 1014 THE ATTACHED BILLING HAS BEEN RE-EVALUATED AT THE REQUEST FO THE PROVIDER  
BASED ON THIS RE-EVALUATION, WE FIND OUR ORIGINAL REVIEW TO BE CORRECT.  
THEREFORE, NO ADDITIONAL ALLOWANCE APPEARS TO BE WARRANTED.

### **Issues**

1. Was the request for medical fee dispute resolution filed in accordance with 28 Texas Administrative Code §133.305 and §133.307?
2. Are the disputed services eligible for medical fee dispute resolution under 28 Texas Administrative Code §133.307?

### **Findings**

1. 28 Texas Administrative Code §133.307 (2)(D) if the carrier has raised a dispute pertaining to liability for the claim, compensability, or extent of injury, in accordance with 28 Texas Administrative Code §124.2 of this title (relating to Carrier Reporting and Notification Requirements), the request for medical fee dispute resolution will be held in abeyance until those disputes have been resolved by a final decision of the commission.
2. The appropriate dispute process for unresolved issues of compensability, extent and/or liability requires filing for a Benefit Review Conference pursuant to 28 Texas Administrative Code §141.1 prior to requesting medical fee dispute resolution. Review of the submitted documentation finds that there are unresolved issues of compensability, extent and/or liability for the same service(s) for which there is a medical fee dispute. No documentation was submitted to support that the issue(s) of compensability, extent and/or liability have been resolved prior to the filing of the request for medical fee dispute resolution.
3. The requestor has failed to support that the disputed services are eligible for medical fee dispute resolution pursuant to 28 Texas Administrative Code §133.307.

### **Conclusion**

For the reasons stated above, the requestor has failed to establish that the respondent's denial of payment reasons concerning liability for the injured employee's workers' compensation claim, compensability of that claim, and/or extent-of-injury issues with that claim have been resolved through the required dispute resolution process as set forth in Texas Labor Code Chapter 410 prior to the submission of a medical fee dispute request for the same services. Therefore, medical fee dispute resolution staff has no authority to consider and/or order any payment in this medical fee dispute. As a result, no amount is ordered.

### **ORDER**

Based upon the documentation submitted by the parties and in accordance with the provisions of Texas Labor Code §413.031, the Division has determined that the requestor is entitled to \$0.00 reimbursement for the disputed services.

### **Authorized Signature**

\_\_\_\_\_  
Signature

\_\_\_\_\_  
Medical Fee Dispute Resolution Officer

February 23, 2011  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

### ***YOUR RIGHT TO REQUEST AN APPEAL***

Either party to this medical fee dispute has a right to request an appeal. A request for hearing must be in writing and it must be received by the DWC Chief Clerk of Proceedings within **twenty** days of your receipt of this decision. A request for hearing should be sent to: Chief Clerk of Proceedings, Texas Department of Insurance, Division of Workers Compensation, P.O. Box 17787, Austin, Texas, 78744. The party seeking review of the MDR decision shall deliver a copy of the request for a hearing to all other parties involved in the dispute at the same time the request is filed with the Division. **Please include a copy of the *Medical Fee Dispute Resolution Findings and Decision*** together with any other required information specified in 28 Texas Administrative Code §148.3(c), including a **certificate of service demonstrating that the request has been sent to the other party**.

**Si prefiere hablar con una persona en español acerca de ésta correspondencia, favor de llamar a 512-804-4812.**